



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
Department of Public Health  
Division of Health Professions Licensure  
Board of Registration in Nursing

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To: Nursing and Healthcare Organizations  
From: Laurie Talarico MS, RN, NP  
Nursing Practice Coordinator  
Re: APRN Ordering Diagnostic Testing  
Date: October 1, 2010

This will clarify the law with respect to the ability of nurse practitioners to order and receive tests and reports from clinical laboratories subject to M.G.L. c. 111D.

Chapter 111D, section 8, subsections (7) and (8) in effect state that the following licensed health care providers may make a written request to a clinical laboratory and receive the report of any such test: a physician, dentist, chiropractor, surgeon, podiatrist, osteopath or other person authorized to use the report of such examination by provision of M.G.L. c. 111D.

According to the Board of Registration in Nursing, advanced practice registered nurses, which include nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, psychiatric nurse mental health specialists, and nurse anesthetists, fall within the category of persons authorized under chapter 111D to "use the report" of these examinations. Thus, in accordance with chapters 111D and 112, advanced practice registered nurses may order and receive reports of tests conducted by clinical laboratories.

If you have questions about this clarification please call Carol Balulescu at the Office of General Counsel Department of Public Health (617) 624-5216 or Laurie Talarico at the Board of Registration in Nursing (617) 973-0872.